

John Boehner
Chairman
8th District, Ohio

*House Meets at 12:30 p.m. for Morning Hour
and 2:00 p.m. for Legislative Business
(Recorded Votes Will Be Postponed Until 12:00 Noon Wednesday)*

Anticipated Floor Action:

H.Con.Res. 31—Resolution Regarding Public Display of the Ten Commandments



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Floor Situation: The House will consider H.Con.Res. 31 under suspension of the rules as its only order of business today. The resolution is debatable for 40 minutes, may not be amended, and requires a two-thirds majority vote for passage.

Summary: The resolution expresses the sense of Congress that public displays of the Ten Commandments in governmental offices and courthouses is a permissible practice. The resolution arises from a court case in Alabama, where an Alabama circuit court ordered Judge Roy Moore to remove a wood-carved Ten Commandments plaque from his courtroom or include other historical, non-religious items in the display. Judge Moore has refused to remove or alter the display. Opponents of the display cite the need to maintain a “bright line” distinction between religious and government functions, but supporters counter that such expressions of religious beliefs on government property have long been sanctioned. The resolution was introduced by Mr. Aderholt.

Additional Information: See *Legislative Digest*, Vol. XXVI, #5, February 28, 1997.

